

IEEE Quantum Technical Community Distinguished Synergy Award

Presented annually by
IEEE Quantum Technical Community

1. General

The IEEE Quantum Technical Community (QTC) Distinguished Synergy Award is presented annually to a Research Center, Institute, Consortium, or Partnership for outstanding contributions that stand as an exemplar in the international quantum computing community of an effective partnership between industry, government, and academia. Nomination packages should specifically address contributions in the field of quantum computing and engineering.

2. Detailed Criteria for the Award

Normally, a recipient of this award will be either a Research Center, Institute, Consortium, or Partnership (hereinafter, the “nominee”). A nominated organization is expected to exemplify a collaboration between academia, government, and industry. Self-nominations are allowed. The Committee expects the recipient of the QTC Distinguished Synergy Award to excel in the criteria outlined in Sections 2.1 to 2.4 below. For a nominee to be considered primarily under criterion 2.5, an exceptionally strong case would be needed.

Criteria

- 2.1 The nominee has a notable track record of conducting multiple synergistic projects.
- 2.2 The synergistic projects have advanced research in academic, industry, and government settings.
- 2.3 The nominee played an essential role in ensuring the success of the synergistic projects.
- 2.4 The synergistic projects have served as examples/models that others have followed and/or built on.
- 2.5 The nominee has made other outstanding contributions that, in the opinion of the Committee, warrant the award.

3. Eligibility

A nominating person on behalf of the organization must be an IEEE Computer Society Quantum Technical Community member at the time of nomination. Self-nominations are allowed.

4. Solicitation

To ensure a broad and competitive pool of nominees, the Award Committee may encourage nominations for the award. Potential nominees may be identified and recommended informally for consideration, including those from academia, industry, and government. Here are the [2025 QTC Award winners](#) for your reference.

Nomination packages must be submitted by a qualified nominator who is not a member of the 2026 IEEE QTC Distinguished Synergy Award Committee. Committee members are not permitted to serve as nominators or participate in the preparation of nomination materials. While potential candidates may assist in assembling required documentation, the primary responsibility for the nomination rests with the nominator.

Nominees who have previously received the award are not eligible. The Committee reserves the right to solicit nominations where appropriate and may decide not to make an award in a given year.

Any conflicts of interest must be disclosed through the EasyChair submission system.

5. Nomination Package

- Nominator: name, address, phone number, and email address of the person making the nomination on behalf of the organization.
- Nominee: name, address, phone number, and email address of the organization for which an award is recommended.
- A short statement (300-500 words) explaining why the nominee deserves the recommended award.
- A letter from a representative of the nominee saying “I accept this nomination” and “my IEEE membership number is XXXXXXXX”.
- Supporting letters of endorsement from at least two people, in addition to the nominator.
- A document highlighting the story of the nominee, mission/goals, and what its impact has been on quantum computing and engineering.

It is at the discretion of any QTC Distinguished Synergy Award Committee member to evaluate any additional information included in the package.

6. Submission of Nomination Package

A nomination package should be uploaded to **EasyChair** in the **QTC Distinguished Synergy Award nomination track** for the award using the submission link: easychair.org/conferences/?conf=qce26

The nomination package should be uploaded as a single PDF attachment for the track submission. The **author** of the submission should be the nominator, and the **title** of the submission should be “2026 QTC DISTINGUISHED SYNERGY AWARD Submission for [NOMINEE]”. There are additional fields on the submission form for the nominator’s credentials.

General inquiries about the IEEE QTC Distinguished Synergy Award may be directed to the 2026 IEEE QTC Distinguished Synergy Awards Selection Committee listed below.

7. Awards Ceremony

The QTC Distinguished Synergy Award is presented annually during the **IEEE QCE Awards Ceremony at IEEE Quantum Week**. The IEEE QTC Chair, IEEE QCE General Chair, and the Chair of the QTC Distinguished Synergy Award Selection Committee will present the award to the recipient(s) at the QCE Award Ceremony. The award announcement and recipient(s) will be prominently featured immediately following the selection on the IEEE QTC and QCE websites and shared widely through official social media channels.

8. 2026 QTC Distinguished Synergy Awards Selection Committee

Hausi Müller (Chair), University of Victoria
Candace Culhane, Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)
Luu Nguyen, PsiQuantum